Technology Plan identifying thrust areas on medium and long term basis to steer Indian industry to pre-eminent position in the world.

Modernisation of postal services in Chhattisgarh

†2490. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any action-plan for the development and modernisation of the postal services in the urban and rural areas of Chhattisgarh:

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated for the expansion programmes of the postal services in the urban and rural areas of the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (c) Under the 10th Five Year Plan, the focus is on upgrading the physical network through computerization, induction of technology and modernization of post offices and postal operations throughout the country, including Chhattisgarh. Expansion of the postal network, training of employees, modernization of operative offices and Speed Post Centres etc. are also being taken up in a phased manner to improve access to postal facilities and provide more efficient service. By the end of the 10th plan, all Head Post Offices and almost all Departmental post offices in the country having more than 2 hands are targeted to be computerized and value added services like e-post provided through them. Computerization of Registration Centres of mail offices, booking and delivery of Speed Post, Circle Stamp Depots, Foreign Post Offices etc. is also targeted for the same period. Computerised Customer Care Centres and Workplace Training Centres have already been set up in different circles, including Chhattisgarh.

Circle-wise targets for each plan activity are decided annually, based on plan resources allocated to the Department and parameters/criteria approved for each scheme. Details of achievements under some important plan schemes till date in Chhattisgarh Circle along with details of funds allocated in the current year, are given in the enclosed Statement I and II

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement-I

Some important achievements under Plan till date in 10th Five Year Plan period, in Chhattisgarh Circle

Sl. No.	Item	Physical achievements from 01-04-2002 to 21-03-2005
1.	Expansion of postal network	*SOs : 2 *BOs : 36 *PSSKs : 170
2.	Supply of infrastructural equipment to BOs	291
3	Computerization of Speed Post booking & delivery offices	13
4.	Modernization of Post Offices & Mail Offices	10
5.	Computerization of Post Office, RMS offices & Administrative offices	31
6.	Computerization of customer care centres	15
7.	Training:	
	(i) Setting up of * WCTSs	01
	(ii) No. of official trained under different programmes	3476
8.	Opening of e-post centres	14

*S.Os :Sub post offices

*B.Os Branch Post offices

*PSSKs: Panchayat Sanchar Sewa Kendras

*WCTCs: Workplace Computer Training Centres

Statement-II

Funds allocated to Chhattisgarh Circle during the current Annual Plan

Sl. No.	Plan Scheme/Activity	Annual Plan 2004-05 (Rs. in crores)
1.	Expansion of Postal network	0.10
2.	Computerisation of post Offices (installation of MPCMs), Accounts and Administrative offices and software Development	1.07
3.	Modernization of operative/working systems (improving ergonomics)	0.34
4.	Modernization/upgradation of premium products	0.03
5.	Upgradation of promotion of philately	0.04
6.	Training	0.14
7.	Construction of buildings	0.41
8.	New Products and services including Development of financial Products and services	0.02
	Total:	2.15

Teledensity in Jharkhand

2491. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of telephone exchanges in Jharkhand, indicating existing capacity of each and exchanges which are earmarked to be upgraded alongwith their time-frame, if any;

(b) whether BSNL mobile connections are available on demand in Jharkhand; if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the details of post-paid and pre-paid mobile telephone connections of BSNL in Jharkhand;

(d) the present status of availability of landline telephone in the State;